

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/996,053	CRANFORD ET AL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jean B. Corielus	2637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/05/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |


 Jean B. Corielus
 Primary Examiner
 Art Unit: 2637 8/20/05

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Patrick J Daugherty on 7/27/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 2, line 1, "at" has been deleted; line 2, "least one of " has been deleted; line 2, "transmitter and" has been deleted; line 2, "circuits" has been changed to -circuit-.

Claim 3, line 2, "at least one of " has been deleted; line 2, "transmitter and" has been deleted; line 2, "circuits" has been changed to -circuit--.

10. (AMENDED CLAIM) A method for providing a unified serial link comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a receiver phase locked loop control circuit;
- b. the receiver phase locked loop control circuit generating a clock phase;
- c. connecting a receiver phase rotator circuit to the receiver phase locked loop control circuit;
- d. the receiver phase rotator circuit receiving the clock phase from the receiver phase locked loop control circuit;

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- e. the receiver phase rotator circuit modulo shifting the clock phase into a desired phase angle;
- f. connecting a receiver phase buffer circuit to the receiver phase rotator circuit;
- g. the receiver phase buffer circuit buffering the phase angle [to an equalization driver];
- h. providing a transmitter phase locked loop control circuit;
- i. connecting a transmitter phase buffer circuit to the transmitter phase locked loop control circuit; and
- j. connecting a transmitter equalization driver to the transmitter phase buffer circuit.

15. (AMENDED CLAIM) The method for providing a unified serial link of claim 10 wherein at least one of the steps of connecting a transmitter phase buffer circuit and connecting a receiver phase buffer circuit further comprises the step of providing a latch buffer configured with positive feedback through cross-coupled n-channel devices.

16. (AMENDED CLAIM) The method for providing a unified serial link of claim 10 wherein at least one of the steps of connecting a transmitter phase buffer circuit and connecting a receiver phase buffer circuit further comprises the step of providing a pair of inverters.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 3, line 28, "Figure 14" has been replaced by --Figures 14A-D, thereafter figure 14,--.

Page 8, line 8, "Figure 18" has been replaced by --Figures 18A-b, thereafter figure 18,--.

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2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: a method and apparatus are disclosed. The closest prior art, Matui, US Patent No. 6,587,521, discloses similar method and apparatus. However, Matui does not teach or fairly suggest, in combination with other claimed limitations, the limitations recited in claim 1, lines 12-18, and the limitations of " the receiver phase rotator circuit receiving the clock phase from the receiver phase locked loop control circuit; the receiver phase rotator circuit modulo shifting the clock phase into a desired phase angle; connecting a receiver phase buffer circuit to the receiver phase rotator circuit", recited in claim 10, are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the Matui et al.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean B Corrielus whose telephone number is 571-272-3020. The examiner can normally be reached on Maxi-Flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on 571-272-3086. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jean B. Cornelius
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2637 8/20/05